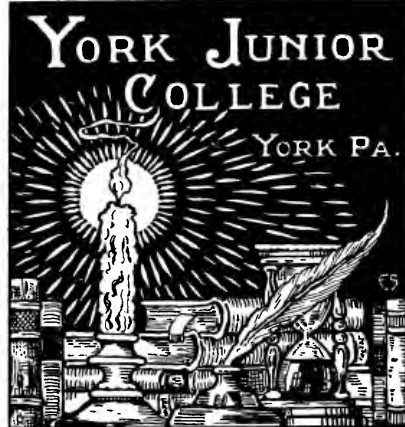


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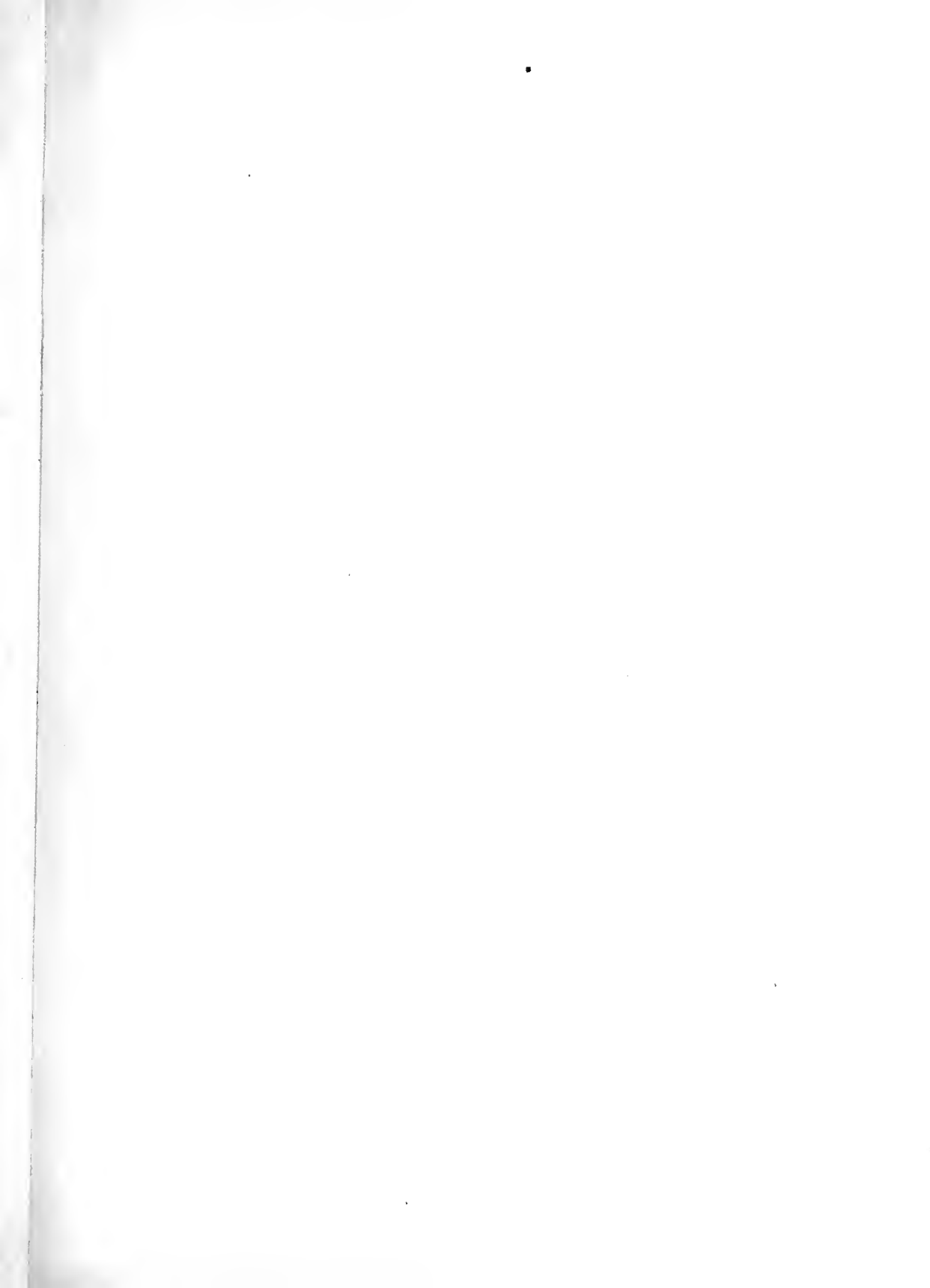


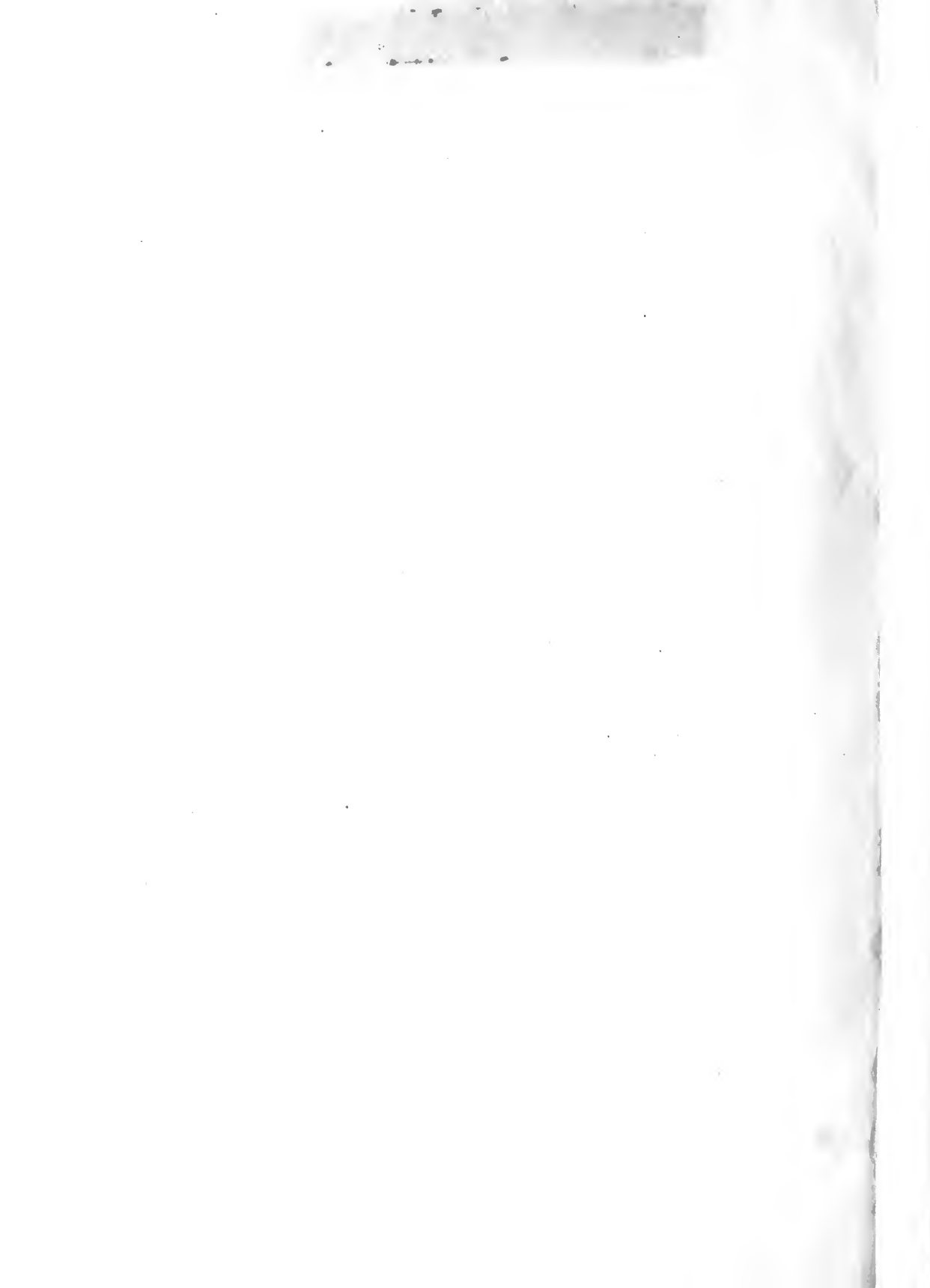
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ART WORK OF YORK.



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COUNCIL ROCK.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE
CITY AND COUNTY OF YORK, PA.

By EDWARD STUCK, EDITOR YORK EVENING AGE.

THE City of York, the county seat of York county, enjoys the distinction of being one of the most beautifully situated, healthy and prosperous inland cities in the commonwealth of Pennsylvania. It is located in the fertile valley of the Codorus, fifty-seven miles from Baltimore, twenty-eight miles from Harrisburg, the State Capital, and ninety miles from Philadelphia, with which places it is connected by the Pennsylvania railroad. The rich and productive valley in which York is so favorably built, is a continuation of the famous Cumberland valley. This valley extends to the Susquehanna river at Wrightsville, where interrupted by the river's broad expanse of water, continues its course on the other shore, through Lancaster into Chester, forming in its miles of length, one of the richest agricultural belts in the Union. There is no territory in the country so replete in history or more intimately associated with the struggle





COUNTY PRISON.





CODORUS CREEK, OLD FISHING GROUND





VIEWS IN GRANTLEY.





WEST PHILADELPHIA STREET SCHOOL



EAST FROM GEORGE STREET BRIDGE.



of the Colonies in the war of Independence. The city is nestled on both sides of the Codorus, surrounded by hills in its immediate suburbs and in the dim distance, the wooded tops of the Conewago and South Mountain ranges, raise their lofty peaks heavenward like grim spectres, forming a protecting barrier against the blasts of the storm king. York was one of the original colonial boroughs of the commonwealth and among the very last to surrender its borough charter to adopt that of a city government.

In the contracted limits of the space devoted to this historical sketch, we are unable to do proper justice to a locality so prominently associated with the early history of America. Confined to some nine thousand words, one can give but a compendium and pass briefly over important and interesting events. The writer is indebted for much of the data herein contained to Gibson's Centennial Historical Sketch of York County, published in 1876. Those portions of this paper within quotation marks have been copied in their entirety from Gibson's sketch.

Yorktown, the primitive name given it by the original settlers, is a part of Springettsbury Manor, the title given to the land including its site, and that lying between it and the Susquehanna river, by William Penn when he acquired the land under warrant of Charles II., by European law, as also by independent title from the Indian occupants.

The original settlers of York and York county were Germans, who as early as 1729, located on Kreutz and Codorus creeks, composing the present townships of Hellam, Springettsbury, Spring Garden, York, Shrewsbury and Springfield. These settlers were Lutherans, Moravians and German Reformed. The lower end of the county, then, and for many years afterward, was denominated as the "Barrens," because of the lack of timber in that locality. It was settled about the same time by Scotch Irish, and comprise the townships of Peach Bottom, Fawn, Chanceford, Hopewell and Windsor. These settlers were mostly Presbyterians. The Quaker families settled in the townships of Newberry, Fairview, Monaghan, Warrington, Franklin, Washington and Carroll. The Palatinate upon the Rhine furnished a complement of sturdy German reformers, fleeing from the persecutions in their country with the Huguenots, the Puritans and the Quakers, who sought homes in this section, and from which ancestry some of the principal families in wealth and culture here have sprung.

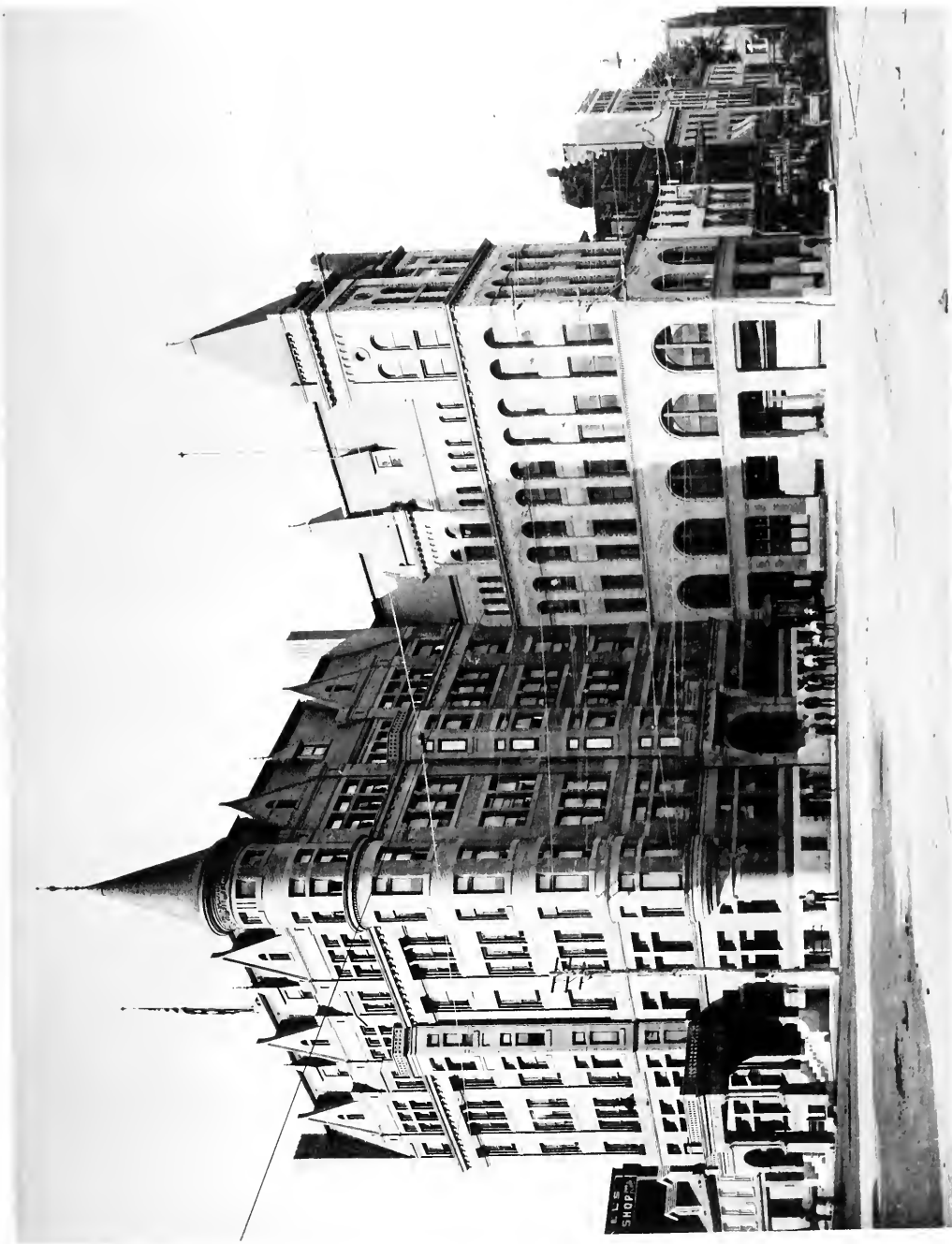
The history of the early settlers of York is contemporaneous with that of the people of the United States. Theirs was a continual struggle for their rights against Maryland intruders, who

attempted to get possession, under a pretended title from Lord Baltimore, to the lands from Yorktown down to the Susquehanna river to Wright's Ferry. The contest for these lands resulted in strife and bloodshed, and continued during the lifetime of William Penn, and for fifty years after his death. The Indians committed many depredations upon the settlers, and between the aborigines and the Maryland invaders, the situation of the pioneers was an unhappy and perilous one.

The first public improvement of importance made was that of a public road westward from Wright's Ferry (now Wrightsville), surveyed in 1740, on the petition of the inhabitants of Hellam township, the first organized township in the county. This road extended to the Monocacy road near the Potomac, and crossed the Codorus at a fording on the site of the Philadelphia street bridge.

The site upon which to build Yorktown was surveyed for the proprietor's use in October, 1741. The tract surveyed embraced the territory lying contiguous on both banks of the Codorus, and upon the section surveyed, the present flourishing city of York now stands, a monument to the struggles and hardships which confronted its projectors. Singular as it may appear to us at this time, while there were many habitations in the vicinity of the site of Yorktown, there was not one building within the present limits of the old borough of York as late as the year 1740.

The plan of laying out the city of Philadelphia was followed in laying out Yorktown. Squares of 480 feet by 520 feet, and lots of 230 feet by 65 feet. Two streets 80 feet wide were to cross each other, and 65 feet square was to be cut off the corner of each block to make a square for any public building or market of 110 feet each side. The first application for lots in Yorktown was made in November, 1741. The first lot taken up was on east Market street, that on which the Marshall House now stands, adjoining the court house, and next, those adjoining towards the Center Square. Some twenty lots were taken up in this month, and no others until the 10th and 11th of March, 1746, when forty-four were purchased. The building of this town in the midst of the wilderness surrounding it, did not proceed very fast, for in 1751, ten years afterward, but fifty houses had been erected. The original area of the town was 446½ acres, which was not increased until 1814 by the addition of Hay's tract of sixty acres. The Lutherans have the honor of erecting the first church in York in 1744. The German Reformed the second, two years later.



COLONIAL HOTEL.





AT THE RESIDENCE OF HON. CHAUNCEY F. BLAKE





CODORUS, BELOW LOUCK'S MILL





EAST MARKET STREET, FROM THE SQUARE.





SCENE AT CRYSTAL SPRINGS — HEMLOCK PARK





MARKET STREET BRIDGE.



Originally York was a part of Lancaster county and until 1749, the courts were held at Lancaster. The people west of the Susquehanna found it a great hardship to be so far distant from the seat of justice, and their complaints on this score resulted in separation from Lancaster county and in the establishment of the county seat at Yorktown. The first Court of Quarter Sessions of the Peace was held on the 31st day of October, 1749. John Day, Esq., and his associate justices held the court. The first Court of Common Pleas was held January, 1750. George Stephenson officiated as prothonotary, clerk of the courts, register of wills, recorder of deeds and surveyor. This man Stephenson was a very prominent character from the founding of the town of Yorktown up to and during the war of the Revolution.

The new town, like all primitive settlements, and not unlike our western border towns of to-day, had rather independent ideas of liberty, consequently there were numerous scenes of conflict, riot and bloodshed. There was a continued war of races between the Irish and German, which exhibited itself with violence at elections and on all public occasions. Many ludicrous accounts are given in the more extended histories of the county of these troubles, which we are unable to refer to in the contracted limits of this sketch.

The progress of the new town was greatly retarded by the border troubles with Maryland. With a view to the settlement of these difficulties, George the III, caused temporary limits to be fixed, and in 1739 a line was run called "The Temporary Line" between the provinces of Pennsylvania and Maryland. This line did not have the desired effect, and there continued a conflict of authority between the two provinces by a misapprehension of the line, which kept on until 1763, when commissioners were appointed on the part of Pennsylvania and Maryland to fix a boundry line. Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon, two famous mathematicians forever settled the disputed sections by running in 1767-1768, the now famous Mason and Dixon's line. The line was marked by stones one mile apart, and on every fifth mile stone was graven the arms of the proprietaries. This line has become memorable in the history of the troubles between the North and South as marking the northern and southern boundary.

We now leave the little town of York, struggling to lay the foundations for future greatness, to review events occurring elsewhere in the colonies, and in which events, the people of Yorktown are destined to play no unimportant part. The war between France and England for the possession of the Ohio valley, has broken out. The death of Gen. Braddock and the disastrous



defeat of his army on the 9th of July, 1755, has occurred, and the first attention directed to George Washington, a man destined to become in a few years, the most conspicuous figure in America, as the leader of her armies and the one to break the yoke of British oppression. The terrors of the French war visited the county of York. Its people in different sections experienced all the cruelties of savage warfare and butchery. The settlers not only organized for the defence of their own homes, but companies of volunteers marched to the defense of their brethren in Cumberland county, and four companies marched under Gen. Forbes and took part in the capture of Fort Duquense, at Pittsburg, and the subsequent driving of the French from the Ohio valley.

America by this time began to chafe under the oppressive measures of Great Britain, and to assert her claims for independence. In no place in the country was the spirit of such independence more manifest than in York, and a class of men appeared as leaders of the people, who became renowned in the history of the county when the struggle for independence began.

It is a matter of local pride to know that as early as December, 1774, a company was formed, which was the first military organization raised in Pennsylvania to resist the encroachments of Great Britain. The captain of this company, James Smith, afterward became a member of Congress and one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. A company of York riflemen, under command of Captain Michael Doudel, was the first that marched from Pennsylvania to Boston, leaving York, July 1, 1775. Five battalions of York county militia marched to New Jersey. The famous Flying Camp, of Washington's army, represented in its ranks many York countians. The York county patriots were with Gen. Washington in all his battles, enduring the hardships and privations of his memorable campaigns with remarkable devotion to the country and unflinching courage.

When the British army occupied Philadelphia, September 26, 1777, after the defeat of the Continental army at Brandywine, Congress then in session at Philadelphia, fled to Lancaster, and fearing that place would be open to incursions of the enemy, adjourned across the Susquehanna to York. Congress held its first session here, September 30, 1777, in the old Court House, which stood in the Center Square and continued here until the 27th of June, 1778. Their session at York was during the most gloomy period of the Revolution and we incorporate the following account of its sitting here and the interesting events connected with it from Gibson's history:





VIEW ON THE N. C. R. R.

"The town of York—the seat of the American Union in our most gloomy times—may its citizens enjoy in the same proportion their share of American prosperity."

"The Theological seminary, founded by the synod of the German Reformed church, was removed here in 1828. The principal professor of that institution, Rev. Lewis Mayer, D. D., edited a church magazine, distinguished for its ability. This seminary was removed to Mercersburg where it became famous for its theology, and is now a part of Franklin and Marshall college at Lancaster."

In the war with Mexico, in 1846, there were a number of Yorkers who served with conspicuous gallantry and distinction. In addition to her volunteers in the army and navy, York was represented in the regular army by Granville O. Haller, William B. Franklin, Horatio Gates Gibson, and in the navy by George P. Welsh, Samuel R. Franklin and William Gibson, all of whom became distinguished and rose to high rank in the war of the Rebellion.

In 1851, the York County Agricultural Society was started, which flourished and has been kept up with the attendance of great financial success, uninterruptedly ever since, except during the years of the civil war. The extensive grounds owned by the company in West York and the success which attends the annual fairs held every year, place it among the most flourishing agricultural societies in the State.

The news of the firing upon Fort Sumter, April 12, 1861, again aroused the patriotism of our people which only needed some such rude awakening to call it into action. As in the Revolutionary war, so in the war for the Union, York was the first borough in the commonwealth to respond to the call for arms. The Worth Infantry, under Capt. Thomas A. Ziegle, and the York Rifles, under Capt. George Hay, promptly tendered their services to Governor Curtin and were as promptly accepted. The Legislature of Pennsylvania, at its session in 1893, recognized these two companies by special act, as the first defenders from Pennsylvania in the war for the Union, and directed that each member of them should be presented with a medal by the State in honor of their being the first to respond to the call of the governor for volunteers. Situated on the borders of Maryland, York was the scene of continued excitement from the commencement to the close of the war. In the three months campaign, York was made the rendezvous for State troops. Camp Scott was established on the old Fair Grounds and the volunteers formed into



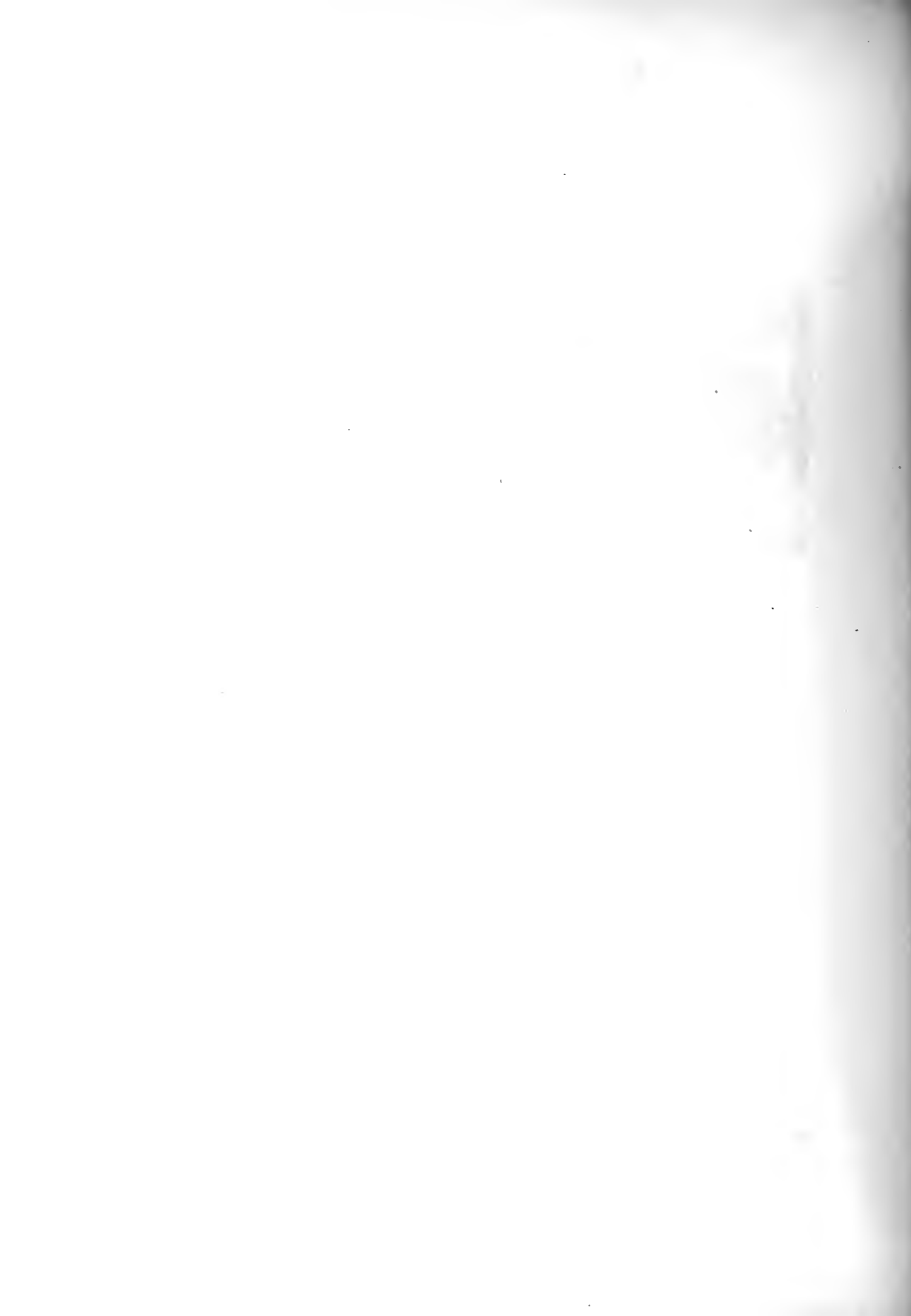
regiments, uniformed, disciplined and forwarded to the seat of war. The York Rifles were attached to the 2nd Regiment, P. V., Col. Stambaugh, and the Worth Infantry to the 16th, and its captain, Thomas A. Ziegle, made colonel. There were thousands of volunteers from York in the Union service. The flower of her youth rallied to the defense of the country and only the men too old to bear arms remained at home. Two regiments of infantry, the 87th, P.V., Col. George Hay, afterward commanded by Col. John W. Schall, and the 130th Regiment, P.V., H. J. Zinn, colonel and Levi Maish, lieutenant colonel, were recruited principally from this county. In addition to these two regiments, there were in some instances entire companies from York and many of our citizens attached to other regiments, prominent among which were those of the 1st and 12th Pennsylvania Reserves, 1st Pennsylvania Artillery, the 76th, 187th, 107th, 194th, 200th, 107th, 109th and 103rd Infantry, the 11th, 9th and 21st Cavalry, all Pennsylvania regiments. Besides the regiments of other States represented in their ranks many Yorkers. In the regular army from York were Major Granville O. Haller, 7th Infantry; Capt. Walter S. Franklin, 12th Infantry; Capt. Theo. D. Cochran, 13th Infantry; Capt. Chas. Garretson, 17th Infantry; Lieut. Geo. W. H. Stouch, 3rd Infantry; Lieut. Jacob L. Stouch, 12th Infantry; Major-Gen. William B. Franklin, Gen. Horatio Gates Gibson, 3rd Artillery; Edmund Schriver, Inspector General of the Army, brevet Major-General; Michael P. Small, Colonel, Commissary Department, brevet Brigadier General. In the navy were Commanders Clark H. Welles, Samuel R. Franklin and William Gibson, all of whom participated in the great naval engagements of the war. Inasmuch as York became prominent in connection with the war of the Rebellion, by reason of the Rebel Army under Gen. Early, its close proximity to the battle-field of Gettysburg, and the location of a United States Hospital here, it is very proper to give some extended account of those exciting times in her midst, and therefore draw upon Gibson's Sketch for the following account, in view of its accuracy and brevity:

"In the meantime, events at home gave our people work to do; and in all cases when called upon to furnish provisions or give aid to the sick and wounded, they were ready with abundance, and with sanitary help. The 2nd Regiment of the Ira Harris Cavalry (6th N. Y.) took up winter quarters here about Christmas, 1861. In the course of the winter barracks were erected on the commons for their accommodation. This regiment had occasion to express their appreciation of the hospitable attention they received from our citizens. Gen. Havelock, a distinguished British officer, a volunteer on the staff of Gen. McClellan, as Inspector General of Cavalry, visited York,





LOOKING SOUTH FROM MARKET STREET BRIDGE.





ON THE DEIHL MILL ROAD.



RESIDENCE OF ADAM F. GEESEY.



GEORGE STREET, SOUTH FROM KING.



BUILDINGS IN THE FAIR GROUNDS.



MAIN BUILDING.





INTERIOR ST JOHN'S CHURCH



YORK COUNTY ACADEMY—1787.



OLD QUAKER MEETING HOUSE.

in March 1862, for the purpose of superintending the transportation of the New York regiment which soon after left us. The barracks erected for them were converted into a military hospital in the course of the summer, in which many hundreds of soldiers were placed. The ladies of the borough formed a society for the relief of sick and wounded soldiers, Mrs. C. A. Morris, president, which was perfect in organization and effectiveness, and the attention, sympathy and aid afforded by it have been gratefully remembered. * * * On the 28th of June, 1863, the Rebel Army entered York. They marched into town about ten o'clock, on Sunday morning, entering the west end of Market street; the church bells had commenced ringing and the citizens crowded the streets. Ladies on their way to church stopped on the porches and sidewalks. The whole population soon thronged the streets, and men, women and children looked with curious eyes, mingled with undefined apprehensions, upon the motley procession of cavalry, infantry and artillery marching up Market street, the soldiers looking curiously from side to side, astonished not less at their observers than their observers were at them. The people were in holiday or Sunday costume—the ladies in all their fashionable finery, and the men looking well dressed and comfortable, in strange contrast with the ragged and worn appearance of the invading army. These first troops that entered the town were General Gordon's brigade of twenty-five hundred men, who marched up Market street, and on towards Wrightsville. The Union flag was floating in the Center Square and was taken down and carried off by them."

"Two regiments of infantry, with ten pieces of artillery, followed, and with them, Major General Early, commander of the division. This last brigade took possession of the hospital grounds—the commons, General Early established his headquarters in the court house. York was the only place of any considerable size and wealth they had had in their grasp. They saw the rich valley, and the evidences of prosperity all around us, and made their demands accordingly. Although the men were restrained from violence and citizens were treated with respect, the iron hand of an enemy was felt. A requisition was made for provisions and articles of clothing and one hundred thousand dollars in money. Our prominent business men, by their efforts, partially filled the requisition—raising some twenty-eight thousand dollars. Threats were made of burning the railroad buildings and car shops; and prudence dictated compliance as far as possible."

"Four brigades were in York and vicinity, commanded by Generals Gordon, Hayes, Smith and Hoke. The brigade of General Gordon marched to Wrightsville, reaching there about six

o'clock in the evening. The few Union troops there retreated across the bridge, after the exchange of a few shots with the enemy. The bridge was fired about midway, and soon the whole was enveloped in flames. The invading troops left hastily on the morning of Tuesday, the 30th of June, between four and five o'clock."

"There were some incidents connected with the Rebel invasion of the Borough of York, which gave rise to much excitement and misrepresentation at the time and afterward, and as a part of the *res gestæ*, as the lawyers say, cannot pass unnoticed. Sufficient time has elapsed since the war to view the proceedings calmly. A visit was made to the camp of the enemy, on the evening preceding his entry into town, by the request of the committee of safety, in order to assure the alarmed citizens of the safety of person and property—an assurance which accounts for the calm manner in which the presence and control of a hostile foe was viewed by our people the next day; and the flag in Center Square, was left flying to show that the town was *not* surrendered. It was soon after replaced by another flag, presented by W. Latimer Small, Esq., to the borough."

"At Hanover, the first battle of the war in Pennsylvania, was fought on Tuesday, the 30th of June, 1863, an artillery and cavalry fight which lasted the greater part of the day—the cannonading was distinctly heard in York. The third division of the cavalry corps of the Army of the Potomac, under General Kilpatrick, one of the brigades of which was commanded by General Custer, reached Littlestown on the 29th, and Hanover on the 30th, in pursuit of General Stuart, who was known to be moving through Pennsylvania. The 18th Pennsylvania Cavalry was of the rear guard of Kilpatrick's column, and while halting in the streets of Hanover, was suddenly attacked by the head of Stuart's column; the 18th was at first driven through the town, but rallying with the 5th New York, drove the enemy back, when his artillery opened fire. The roar of guns brought Kilpatrick to the rescue. He formed his line of battle on the hills south of Hanover, and the enemy held the heights to the north, the 18th Pennsylvania occupying the town and barricading the streets. The fight, with artillery firing and skirmishing, continued until dark, when the enemy retired. A large body of them came as far as Dover, and about two hundred and thirty prisoners were paroled there. Thirteen Union men were killed and fourteen wounded, four rebels killed and nine wounded. Stuart was prevented by this engagement from joining Lee until after the battle of Gettysburg, and his absence was greatly deplored by the Confederate leader. * * *



WEST MARKET STREET



DAM AT LOUCK'S MILL.



RESIDENCE OF THEO. R. HELB, IN COURSE OF CONSTRUCTION.



RESIDENCE OF D. F. LAFEAN.



ON GEORGE STREET, NORTH FROM KING.



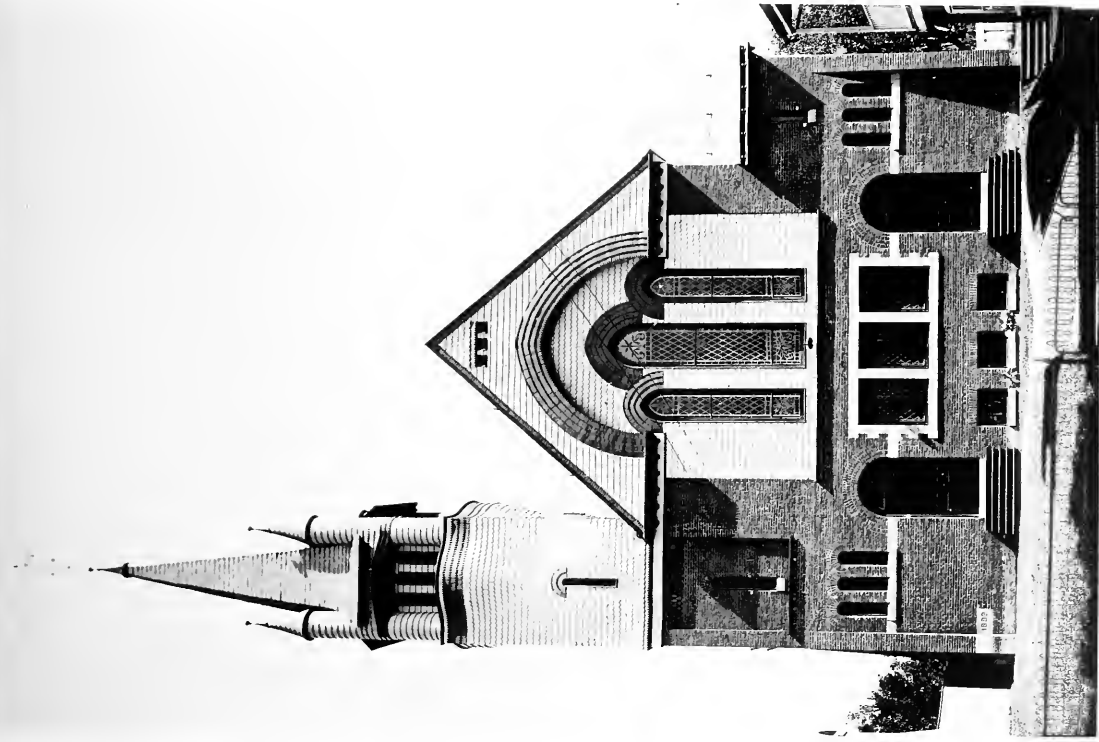
LOOKING SOUTHWEST FROM WEBB'S HILL.



LOOKING NORTH FROM MARKET STREET BRIDGE.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH.

“While Congress was in session here the news of the victory of General Stark, at Bennington, followed by the still more glorious news of the surrender of Burgoyne to Gates, at Saratoga, was received, and contrasted strongly with the disastrous condition of the army under Washington, after the well concerted but unsuccessful attack upon the enemy's army at Germantown. Certain generals of the army and members of Congress are supposed to have entered into a design, at this time, to displace Washington and put in command General Gates who was covered with glory and was the theme of eulogium on account of his recent triumphs, while Washington had gone into winter quarters at Valley Forge, with an army reduced, scant of provisions, with clothing worn out—so badly off for shoes that the footsteps of the men were tracked with blood.

“One part of the alleged scheme was to detach Lafayette from Washington, by appointing him to the command of an expedition for the invasion of Canada. Lafayette came to Yorktown, where Gates was holding what has been styled his court. A feast was given in his honor, and his reception was cordial. The faith and devotion of the gallant young French nobleman never faltered toward the man whom he so loved and honored. According to the custom of the day toasts were given, and he gave as his: ‘The commander-in-chief of the American armies.’ It is said that it was received without cheering.

“While Colonel Wilkinson was on his way to York, he dined at Reading, with Lord Stirling and his staff. Being in a convivial mood he told the aid-de-camp of his lordship what had been written by General Conway to General Gates in disparagement of General Washington. Lord Stirling communicated this to Washington, who let the parties know that he knew it, which occasioned great consternation among his enemies. Wilkinson being in fault became very sensitive. He considered his honor wounded by Gates, and by Lord Stirling, from both of whom he determined to demand satisfaction. The affair with Gates as it occurred here in our town is worth relating as a matter of curious information. According to the account of Wilkinson, as given by himself, he came to York, purposely arriving in the twilight to escape observation, and found a willing friend to convey his challenge to Gates. The meeting was fixed at eight o'clock in the morning, with pistols. The place was in the rear of the Episcopal church. At the appointed time, Wilkinson and his second, having put their arms in order, were about to sally forth, when the second of the General met them and informed Wilkinson that Gates desired to speak with him. He found Gates unarmed and alone, who disavowed any intention of injuring him, and Wilkinson's

wounded honor was satisfied. The whole plot thus ended in personal questions of offended honor. It appeared by after developments that the movement, whatever it was, was not formidable; and there was no sufficient evidence to prove any concerted plan. The censure of Washington's plans and policy, and the opportune successes of Gates, placed the latter in the light of a supposed rival for the command of the army. The calmness and self command of Washington never failed him; and when the disastrous loss of the battle of Camden called forth his personal sympathy, Washington and Gates again became friends.

"The Congress sat with closed doors, and here they resumed the memorable debate on the first plan of union of the colonies and on the 15th of November, 1777, adopted the articles of Confederation. They disseminated the news to the public by means of a press brought from Philadelphia, on which, also, they printed large quantities of continental money, some of which is said to have been found concealed here after the war was over. Resolutions were passed in recognition of the brave foreigners of distinction who aided our cause. Lafayette was recommended to the command of a division. A resolution of thanks was voted to Baron Steuben for his zeal in the cause of America, and Count Pulaski was authorized to raise an independent corps of horse and foot; the horse to be armed with lances; and some of it was recruited here. John Hancock resigned his position as president of the Continental Congress, whilst holding its session here, which occurred on the 31st of October, 1777, having filled the office since May 24, 1775; and Henry Laurens was elected in his place. Matthew Clarkson and John Clark were, on the 6th of January, 1778, appointed auditors of the army under the command of General Washington.

"On the 11th of June, 1778, Philip Livingston, a delegate from the State of New York, and one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, died while here, and was buried in the burying ground of the German Reformed church, where a monument of white marble, surmounted by an urn, was erected to his memory. James Smith lived to a good old age, having died in the year 1806. He was buried in the Presbyterian church yard, where his tomb stone is readily discovered.

"The Old Court House which became famous on account of the session within its walls of the Continental Congress, was built in the Center Square in 1756. In the steeple of that old court house was hung the bell, which, according to the History of York county, came as a present from Queen Caroline of England, for the Episcopal church in York, about the year 1774.





ST. MARY'S CHURCH.



CREEK AND DAM AT THE PAPER MILLS.





RESIDENCE OF GEO. S. SCHMIDT.



RESIDENCE OF JOHN C. SCHMIDT.



PAVILION AND TOWER IN HIGHLAND PARK



LOOKING NORTH FROM WEBB'S HILL.



WESTMINSTER CHURCH.

But Caroline, wife of George II. of England, died in 1737. The generous donor was, in all probability, Caroline Matilda, sister of George III, Queen of Denmark, being the wife of Christian VII, a lady of unhappy history, who was imprisoned in 1772, and spent the last three years of her life in the castle of Zell, Hanover, where she distributed charities. She died in 1775.

"The bell for many years rung out the time for the service of the Episcopal church, as well as for the meetings of the court. Were that old court house standing now, it would be considered an act of vandalism to tear it down. That was done in September, 1841. As was remarked at the time, 'not one brick should be touched, nor should the structure be removed one inch from its site, for the time would come when pilgrimages would be made to those buildings so intimately associated with the toils and triumphs of the Revolution—that they would become the Meccas of Freedom, where her sons would congregate to rekindle in their bosoms the sacred flame of gratitude to the deliverers of their country, and of devotion to those principles which they have defended.'

"On one side of the old court house was erected a building known as the State house, in which were the county offices, and what we have not now, a county miscellaneous library, consisting of a well selected collection of books which disappeared with the building. On the other side was a market house of the antique pattern. The clock which was on the old court house was put on the Lutheran church steeple, and the figure of a soldier with drawn sword, which surmounted the cupola, was placed on the Laurel engine house; these relics are still on these places. * * * The men of York performed their part well at home and on the battle field during the remaining trying years of the war, which lingered on with its terrible hardships to the American soldiers, with alternate victory and defeat, in ever memorable battles, until the surrender of Lord Cornwallis to General Washington, at Yorktown, Virginia, on the 19th of October, 1781, caused hostilities to cease, producing universal joy. This news was received at York with great rejoicing, business was suspended, bells were rung, and a great bonfire built.***

"From time to time during the war large numbers of prisoners, principally Hessians, were brought to York, under the escort of the militia. In individual instances, by permission of the council of safety or the board of war, prisoners were discharged on parole and allowed to take up a residence from choice; and some Hessians settled in York County. * * * In 1781, an act of Congress directed that the British convention prisoners in Maryland and Virginia be



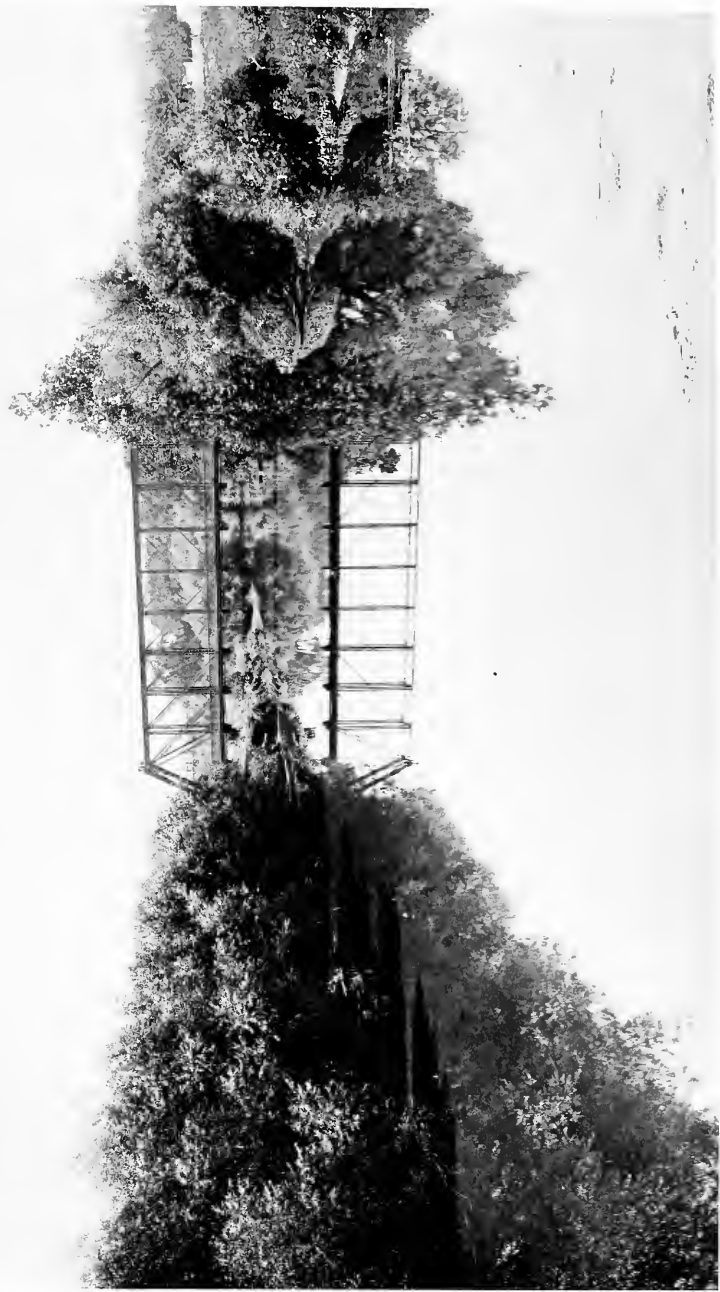
YORK CITY MARKET.



RESIDENCE OF CAPT. W. H. LANIUS.



CALVARY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.



CODORUS CREEK, WEST FROM GEORGE STREET BRIDGE.



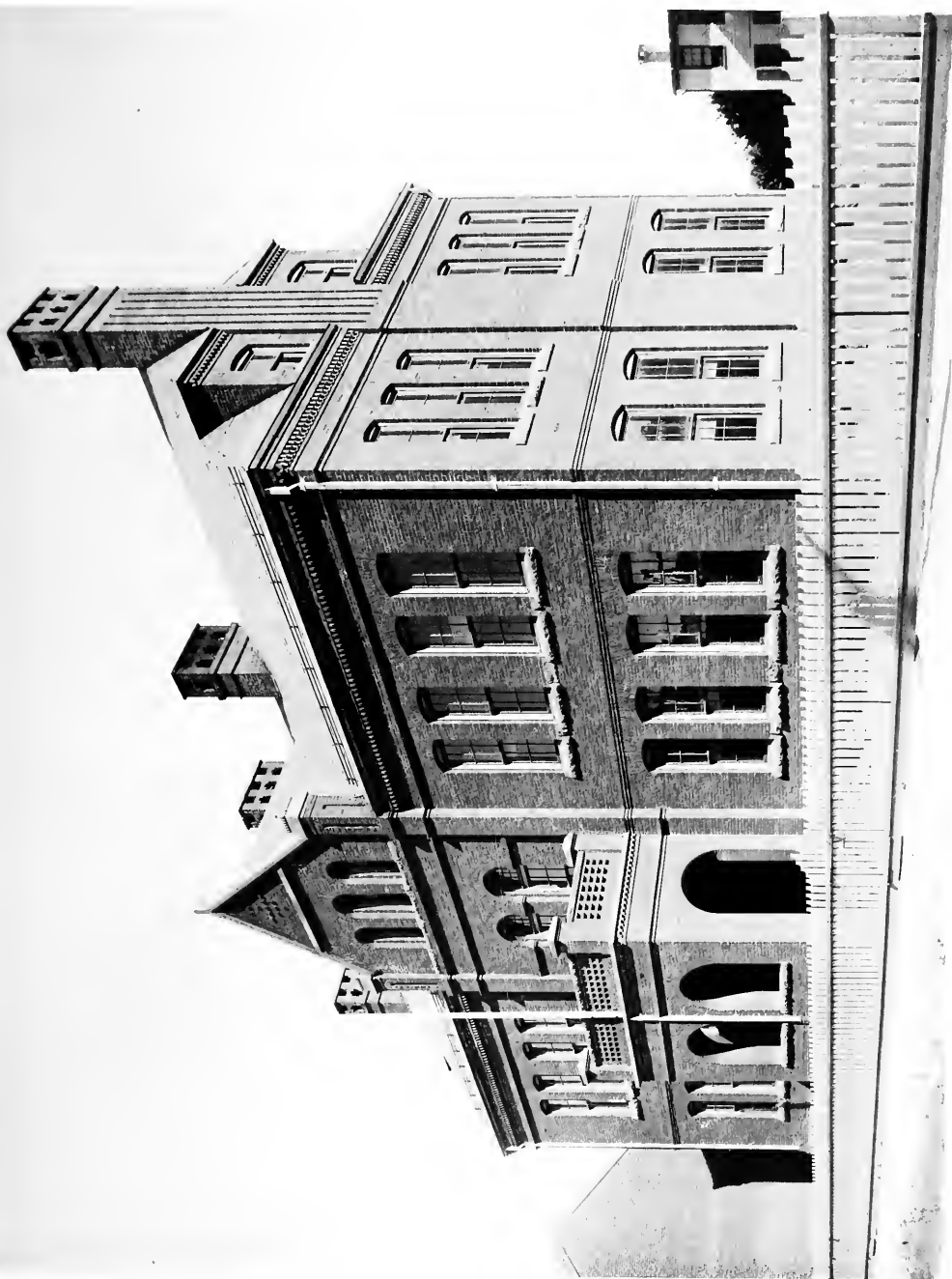
IN HIGHLAND PARK.



RESIDENCE OF JAS. A. DALE



RESIDENCE OF J. A. SINGER.



PRINCESS STREET SCHOOL.

removed to Yorktown, Pennsylvania, from fear of rescue by Cornwallis, and the York county militia were ordered out to guard them. It appears by a letter from President Reed to William Scott, lieutenant of this county, June 28, 1781, that these prisoners were ordered to be placed in huts near York. Four and a half miles east of town in Windsor township, about twenty acres of woodland was cleared and cultivated by them, surrounded by a picket fence, fifteen feet high. The huts were mostly of stone. Some of the timber of the fence and stones of the huts yet remain. While there a plague of some kind broke out among them, and a large number, computed by some that a thousand of them died. Their graves are still visible marked, with stones. * * * Near the place where these prisoners were huttet, is an old stone house, built by John Schultz and wife, in 1734. This is the first stone house erected in York county, now owned by Mrs. Susan Glatz, and still occupied as a dwelling. It was a tavern, and, it is said that the Continental Congress, who had crossed the Susquehanna at Wright's and at Anderson's (now Glatz's) Ferries, on their way to Yorktown, stopped there to water their horses. They had saddles which greatly excited the curiosity of the persons gathered there, such things being then unknown to them."

Thomas Paine, the noted infidel, who was the author of several pamphlets, prominent among which were "The Age of Reason," and the "Rights of Man," and who had tried various erratic ways of making a living as a marine, an excise man, a teacher of English and had acquired a reputation for extreme views on religion and politics, resided in Yorktown during the session of Congress, in 1778. He lived in the rear of King's Grist Mill, in the old stone house, still standing there. This house is situated on the west bank of the Codorus, in the Ninth ward. While residing here Paine is generally believed to have written his famous "Crisis." At the time he had been serving with Washington as a private soldier. The "Crisis" was a paper designed to raise the drooping hopes of the army, and when read to the soldiery, apparently had the desired effect of firing their hearts to renewed energy, their ardor having been considerably impaired by defeat.

At the close of the Revolutionary war, in 1780, there were 290 houses erected in Yorktown, with an estimated population of 1,000. The number of its inhabitants at the time of its incorporation into a borough, on the 24th of September, 1787, is supposed to have been nearly 2,000. Henry Miller was the first chief burgess, and James Smith one of the assistant burgesses.

Other churches had up to this time been erected in addition to the Lutheran and German Reformed, already mentioned. The Moravian in 1756. A Roman Catholic church about 1779.

The St. John's Episcopal church founded in 1769. The first church of this congregation was finished before the war but not occupied. It was used for some time as an arsenal. The First Presbyterian church was built in 1789.

In 1878, the old York County Academy, one of the first institutions of learning was built and instruction commenced the same year. This old school continues to this day.

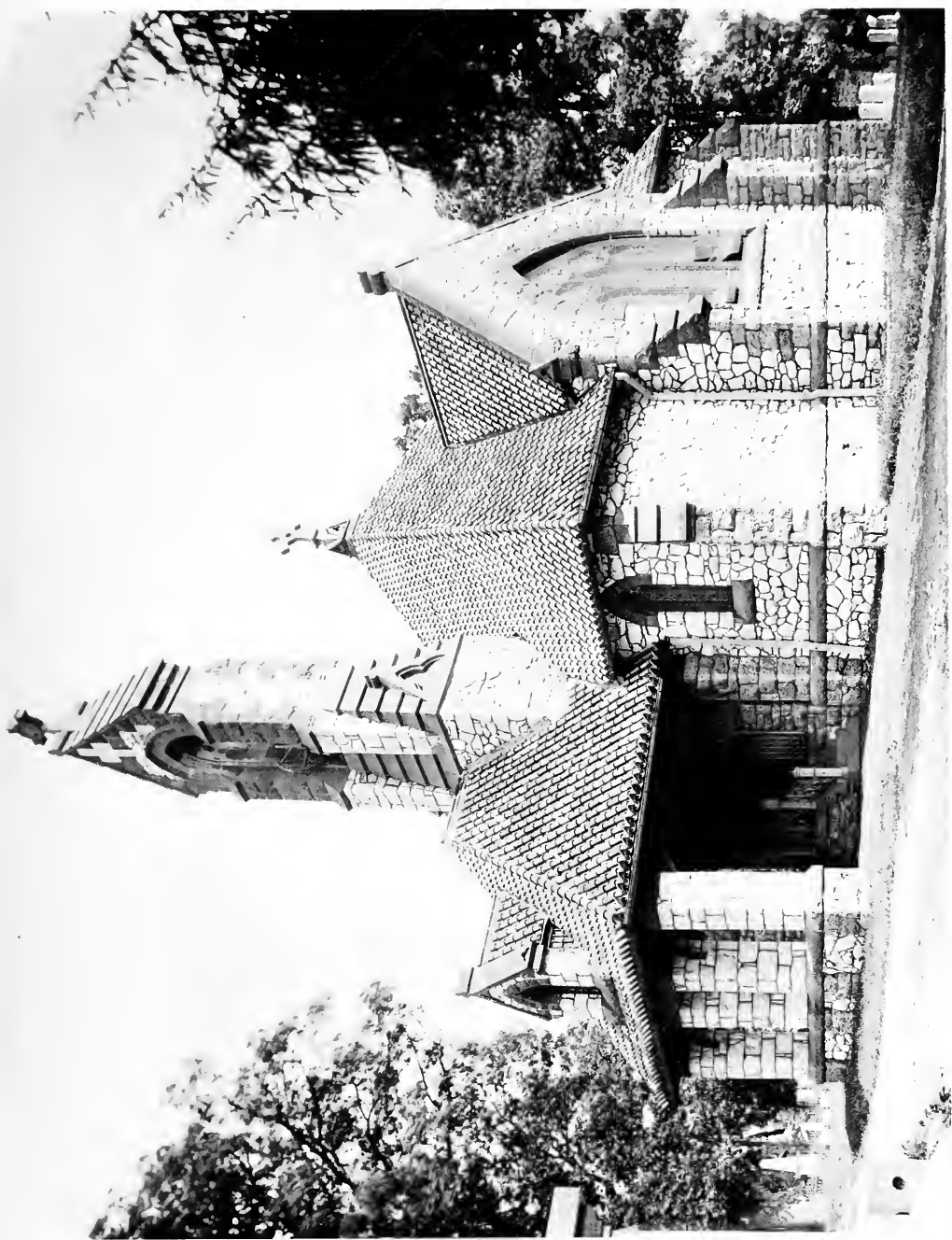
About the time of the incorporation of Yorktown into a borough, the constitution of the United States was adopted in convention, September 17, 1787. A noted celebration was held here in honor of this event, July 4, 1788. Thomas Hartley was the first member of Congress elected under the new government, serving until his death in 1800.

"An interesting question arose under the new government as to the site for the capital of the United States. A strong party in Congress advocated the fixing the capital at Wright's Ferry, on the Susquehanna, where Wrightsville has since developed into a handsome borough. It had a narrow escape from becoming the capital of the country. Washington himself was in favor of it for its beauty and security. The members from New England and New York preferred it, and for many days it seemed to have a better chance than Harrisburg, Baltimore, New York, Germantown, or Philadelphia. There were earnest debates on the subject."

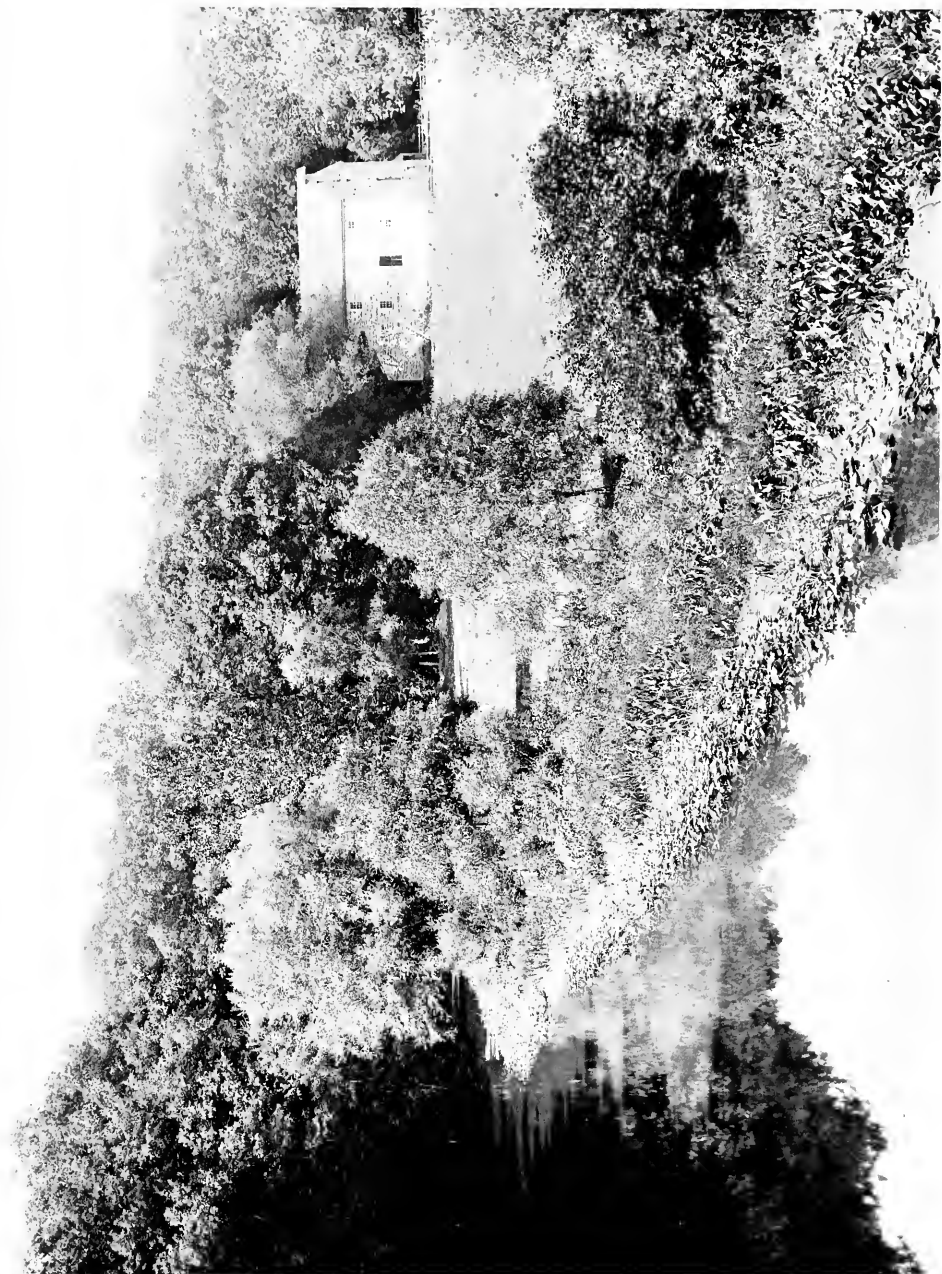
Various houses have been pointed out here in York as having been occupied by General Washington during the war. While he no doubt may have been here during the session of Congress, whilst his army was in winter quarters at Valley Forge, there is no well authenticated record to establish such fact. It has been determined, however, by a recent discovery in the diary of the Moravian church that Gen. Washington visited York July 2, 1791, at 2 P. M. The entry in the church book having been made on the day of his visit by the pastor of the Moravian congregation.

"The first act of the nineteenth century affecting the county of York was the erection of Adams county, on the 22nd of January, in the year 1800, taking off an area of 337,920 acres, and about 12,000 people, still leaving York county with fair proportions, with 589,440 acres, 921 square miles, and about 25,000 inhabitants. This separation is represented by contemporary chronicles to have been the result of a prolonged and bitter contest with the western section of the county, commencing in the days of Richard McAlister and Hans Hamilton. The name of Adams at that period in our history, shows the political predilections of the separatists."

"Mechanical progress was not unknown here. The railroad had been heard of and the



CHAPEL, PROSPECT HILL CEMETERY.



AT SPRENKEL'S MILL.



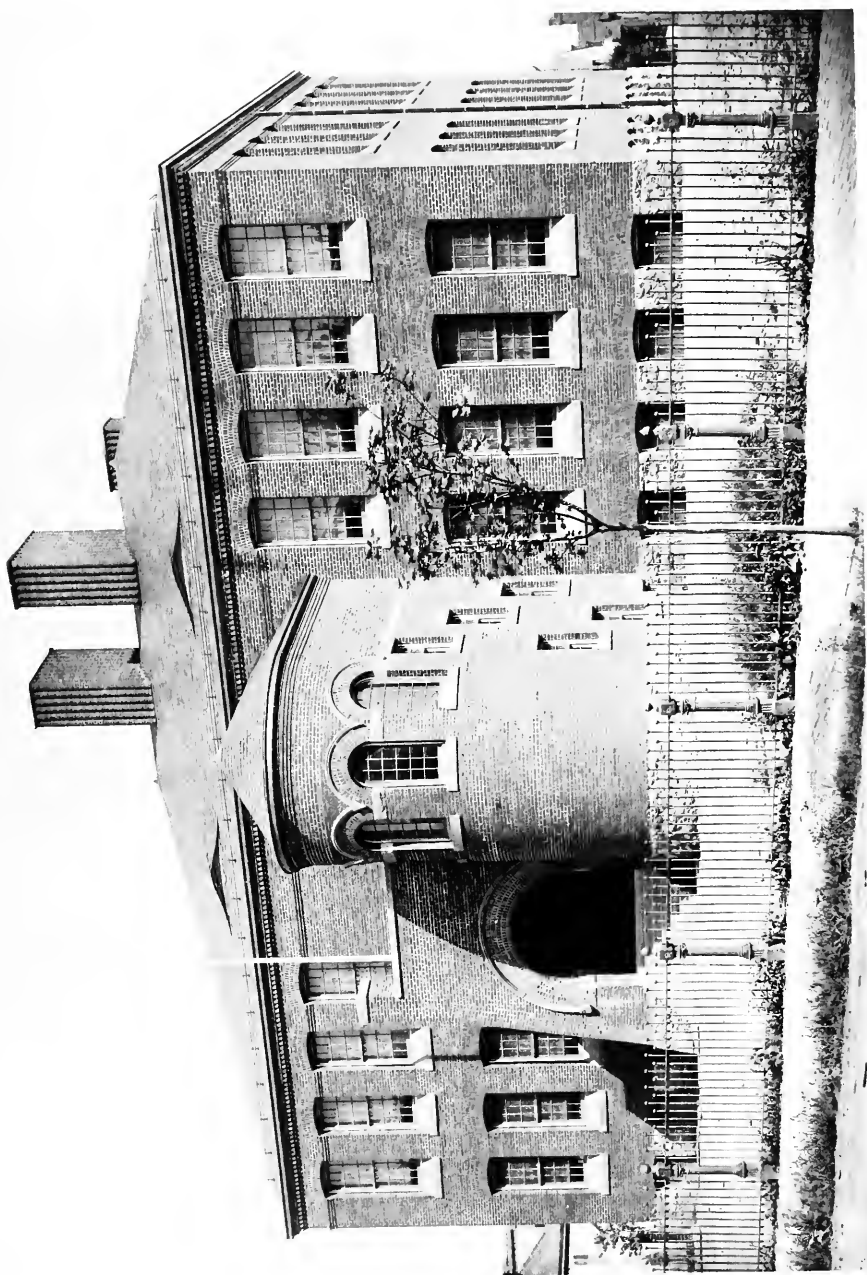
RESIDENCE OF P. B. SPAHR.



VIEW ON SOUTH GEORGE STREET



THE CREEK AT THE OLD FISH HOUSE.



PINE STREET SCHOOL



N. C. R. R. BRIDGE.

power of steam was known. It is no small source of congratulation to know that the first locomotive built in America, and exhibited at the great exposition at Philadelphia in 1876, in front of the Maryland building, was built at York, by a Yorker, in 1829. It was constructed by Phineas Davis, who lived here and married here, and citizens are living now who knew him and the fact of the building by him of his locomotive engine. This locomotive was first run upon the Baltimore and Susquehanna railroad. John Elger constructed about the same time an iron boat, the first of the kind, which, after successful experiment on the Codorus and Susquehanna, was purchased and used abroad."

"Enterprise in the matter of railroads has been from the first a marked feature in the progress of our community. Early in the era of the introduction of railroads in this country, communication took place between York and Baltimore, by means of the Baltimore and Susquehanna and the York and Maryland Line railroads. The first regular train of cars arrived in York from Baltimore on Thursday, the 23d of August, 1838. Thus opening a means of communication—business and social—with a large city, to the great advantage of our people."

"The newspapers in York then were the *Republican*, the *Gazette* (English and German,) and the *Press*. The *Republican* had been published under that name since 1830, succeeding a paper published from the same office called the *York Recorder*, commenced in 1800, which had succeeded by a change of name to the *Pennsylvania Herald*, the first number of which was issued in 1789. The *York Gazette* was first published in 1815, and the *German Gazette* was first published in 1821. The first number of the *Democratic Press* was issued in June, 1838. Since these there have been issued the *York Pennsylvanian* on July 19, 1851, and the *True Democrat* in June, 1864. These are the weekly newspapers in the borough at the present time, and with the other papers in the county, the *Hanover Gazette* (German) and *Citizen and Herald*, the *Wrightsville Star* and *Glen Rock Item*, *Dillsburg Era*, *Delta Times*, *Delta Herald* and four dailies, the *Age*, the *Daily*, the *Dispatch*, the *Gazette* in the city, presents as fair an exhibition of newspaper enterprise and editorial ability as can be found in any community. There was a daily paper issued during the war, called the *York Recorder*, and was regularly published from the 17th of June, 1861, to the 20th of August, 1861."

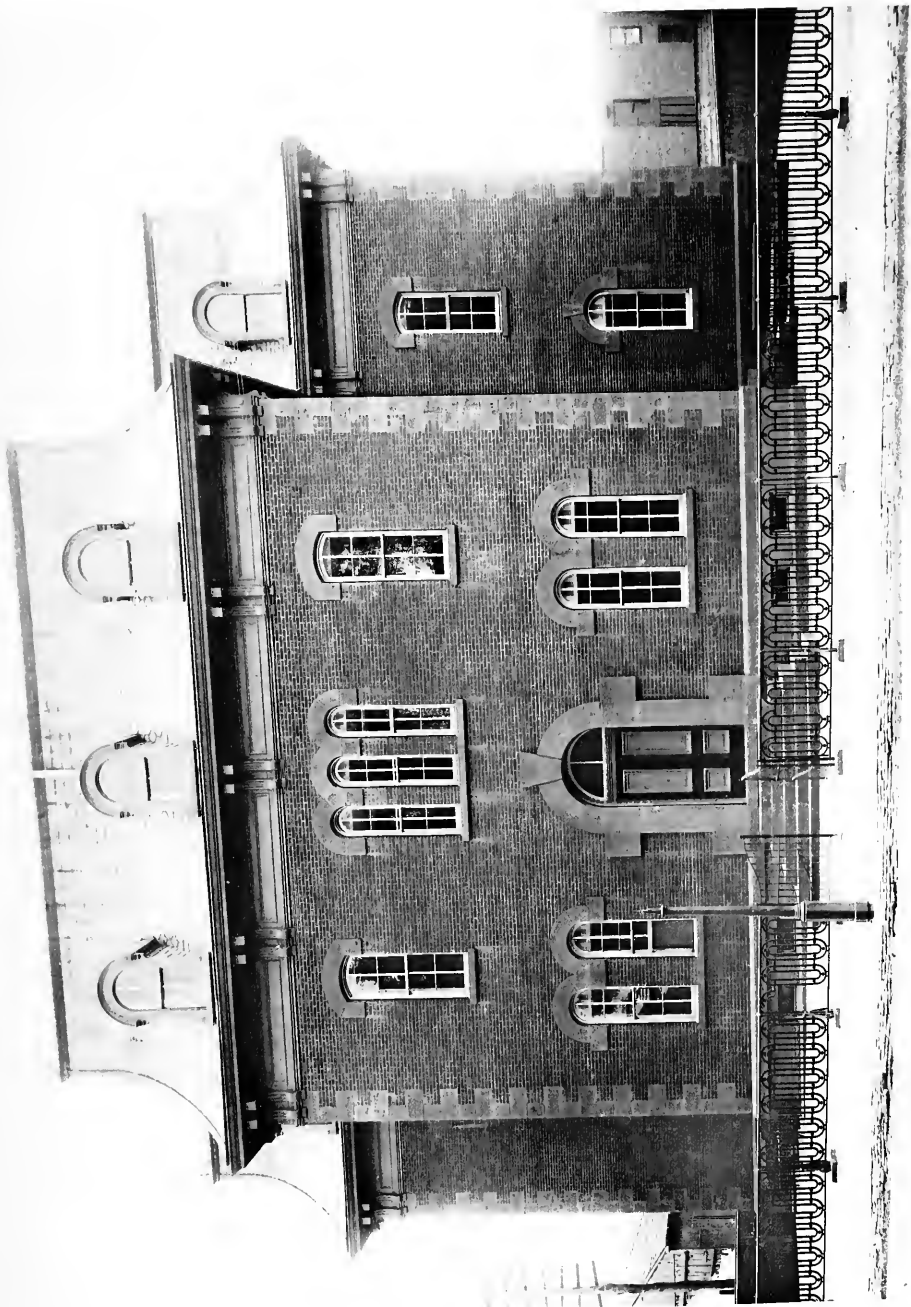
At this date, July, 1893, York is connected with the outside world by means of the great Pennsylvania system of railroads, the Western Maryland, which road is just being completed through York and the Baltimore and Leigh.



ENTRANCE TO HIGHLAND PARK.



FARQUHAR RESIDENCE.



HIGH SCHOOL.



LOOKING SOUTH FROM FARQUHAR'S PARK



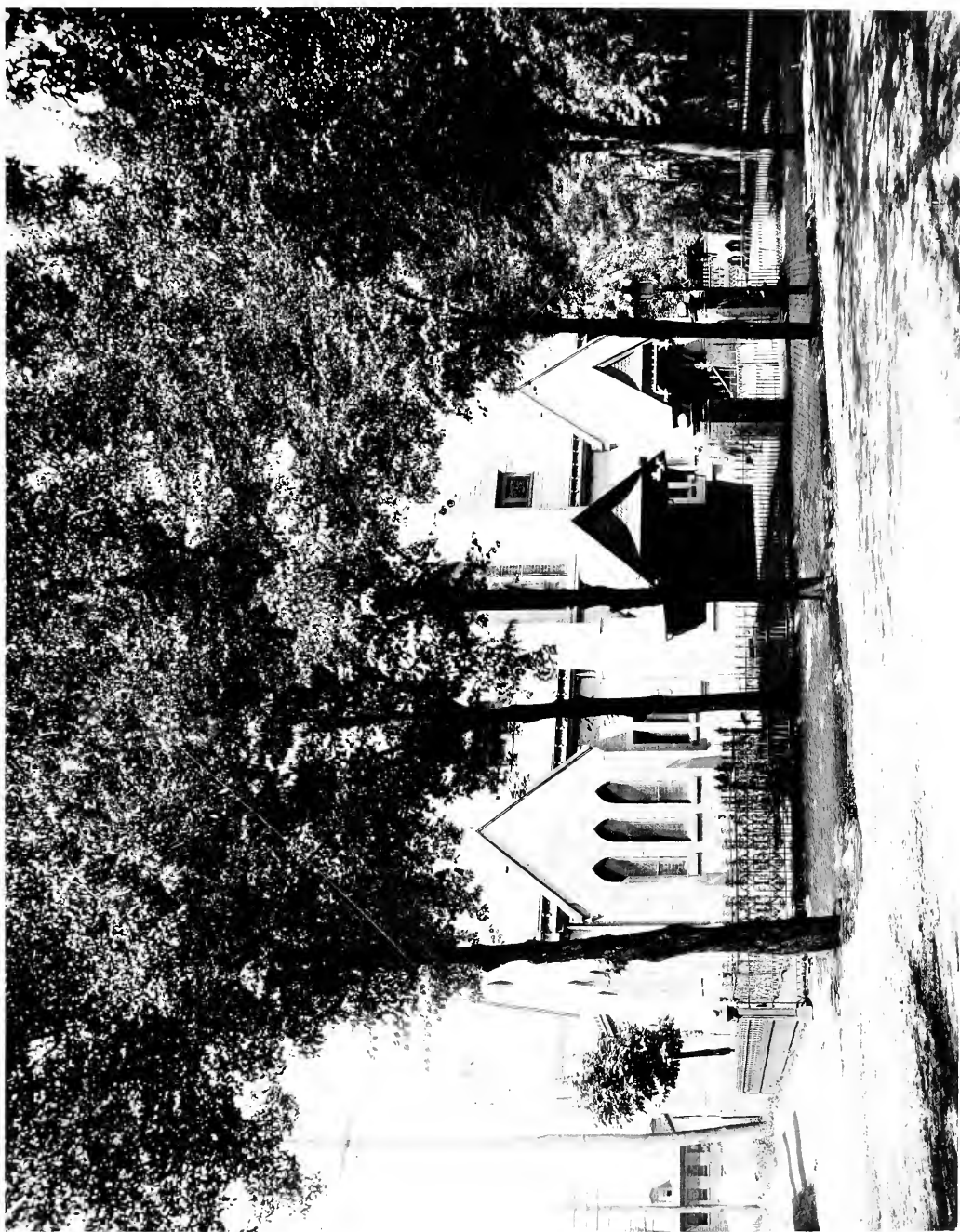


VIEW ON WEST KING STREET.



ON NORTH STREET.





ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH





LAUREL ENGINE HOUSE.





YORK COUNTY ALMSHOUSE.



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH





BUILDINGS IN THE FAIR GROUNDS.



VIEW ON WEST MARKET STREET.





AT THE ROCK-HIGH AND PAID

In the War of 1812, we again find the same spirit of patriotism asserting itself that characterized the Yorkers in former wars. Both in the naval and land services the stalwart sons of York are found doing duty against the invaders. Commodore Elliott, of the frigate Niagara, was an active participant with the gallant Perry, on Lake Erie. Captain Michael Spangler, with the York Volunteers, one hundred strong, marched to the defense of Baltimore, August 29, 1814 and fought gallantly in the battle of North Point, September 12, 1814.

The flight of time is generally marked by inhabitants of little towns like York, with the occurrence of some great disaster or calamity. The flood of 1817, one of the most destructive ever occurring in this section, and one in which several hundred thousands of dollars worth of property was destroyed and many citizens who, before the occurrence, were in comfortable circumstances, reduced to beggary, has ever been one of the great time epochs in the town's history. All events antedating this flood and occurring several years afterward, were referred to as having taken place before or after the flood of 1817. Equally destructive floods have visited the Codorus valley since that of 1817, notably those of 1884 and 1889, resulting in great destruction of property and nearly all the county bridges, involving a loss to the county alone of a hundred thousand dollars in each year, besides an immense loss of private property, yet these more recent calamities were never considered in the light of such awful catastrophes as the ever memorable flood of 1817, the details of which had so frequently been recited by our sires.

Fire companies were organized in York as early as 1772, and what was called a water engine, used as early as August, 1772. The volunteer department of York, to-day, with its splendid equipment of steam fire engines, hook and ladder truck, all drawn by magnificent horses, is the best in the State and the pride alike, of firemen and citizens. The companies are five in number, viz: the Vigilant, Laurel, Union, Rescue and Rex. The Gamewell system of Electric Fire Alarm is used, and all the engine houses connected with every part of the city.

In 1825, Lafayette, visited York, on the occasion of his tour of the United States, and was given an overwhelming reception here. He was honored with a dinner to which one hundred gentlemen sat down. To the following toast he responded:

"Lafayette—we love him as a man—hail him as a deliverer, revere him as champion of freedom, and welcome him as a guest." To which he gave:



WEST MARKET STREET, FROM THE SQUARE





SOLDIERS' MONUMENT—PROSPECT HILL CEMETERY.



QUEEN STREET, SOUTH FROM PHILADELPHIA.



TRINITY CHURCH.





LOOKING EAST FROM FARQUHAR'S PARK.



RESIDENCE OF WM. M. DODSON



AT THE OLD PAPER MILLS.

"The first and eleventh corps of the army of the Potomac, on Wednesday, the 1st of July, 1863, came up with the enemy, in large force, under Generals Hill and Longstreet, near Gettysburg, and a short and severe engagement ensued in and around that town. General Reynolds was killed at the commencement of the fight, while riding at the head of his troops. On Thursday, another engagement began—the rest of the army under General Meade having come up, and the army of the Confederates under General Lee. The firing was heard here distinctly, and in the evening, from six to eight o'clock, it was terrific. On Friday, the battle continued, resulting in the defeat and retreat of Lee. This great battle furnished an opportunity to our people to forward supplies and assistance to the wounded and suffering soldiers, on and in the neighborhood of the field of battle. It scarce needed a public meeting, which was called for the purpose, to cause our citizens to bring in abundance of provisions to the market and court houses. In less than two hours and a half, thirty wagons, loaded down with the necessities of life, bread, cakes, hams and delicacies, accompanied by male and female nurses, were on their way to the battle field. Provisions continued to arrive and were at once forwarded to the scene of action."

The Soldiers' Orphans' Home was established in 1865; the late Samuel Small donated a lot of ground on East Philadelphia street for the erection of a building for the use of the home, which was built by the aid of patriotic citizens, and first occupied April 1, 1867.

In 1835, the county of York accepted the provisions of the common school law, and from that day forward, much attention was given the advancement of free education in our midst. The high school was established in this borough in 1870, and has been kept up to a high standard of excellence. York possesses some of the finest school houses in the commonwealth, and everything is done to promote the advances of education in our town and county. The York Collegiate Institute, another institution of instruction here, is conducted under the auspices of the Presbyterian church. The college building is one of the most imposing structures in the city. It was founded by the late Samuel Small, in the year 1873.

York has frequently been termed by strangers, as the city of churches, a title not at all inappropriate, for she excels in the number of churches and in the beauty and costliness of their architecture. Many handsome public buildings of imposing proportions, pleasing design and construction, are to be seen in various parts of the city. In the past twenty-five years, a commendable ambition urged the people here to erect beautiful modern residences, which has



NORTH ON GEORGE STREET, FROM THE SQUARE.





RESIDENCE OF FRANK GEISE.



EAST MARKET STREET.





CENTRAL MARKET.

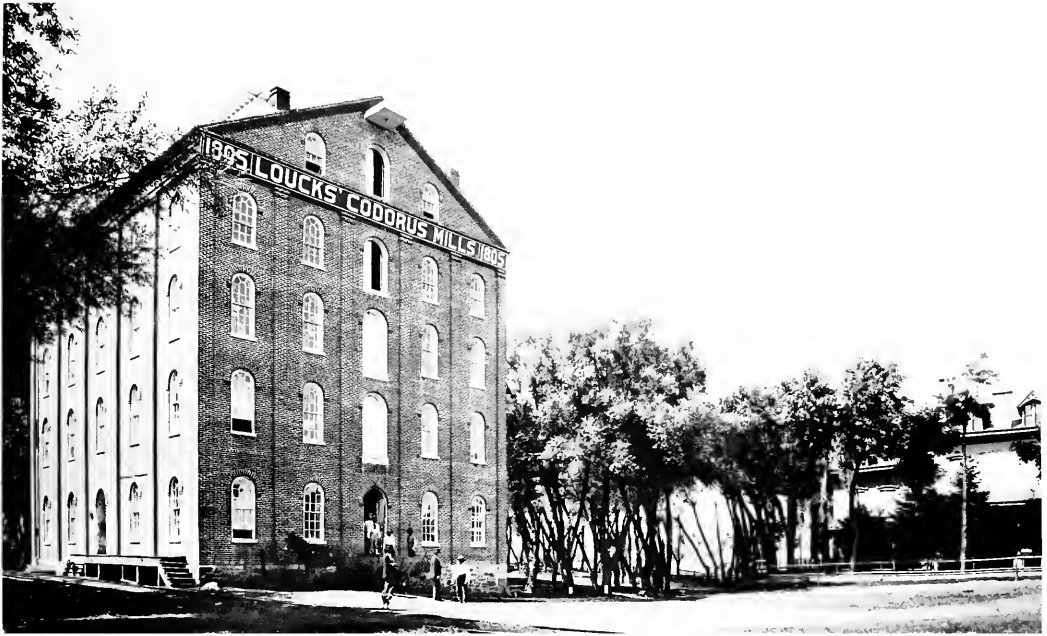




BROCKIE SPRINGS ON THE BLACK PLACE.



AT THE LIME KILN.



AT LOUCK'S CODORUS MILL.



LOOKING SOUTHEAST FROM FARQUHAR'S PARK.



resulted in the building of many princely homes. The suburban residences in the recently annexed territory, are especially beautiful and costly. Upon the eminences overlooking the city and in close proximity to it, the wealthier classes have built magnificent country seats. Numerous costly business houses, with fronts of stone and iron, have of late years been erected, monuments to the energy and prosperity of our tradesmen and merchants. The United States Government is now engaged in the construction of a superb post office building on the northwest corner of Philadelphia and Beaver streets, at a cost of \$80,000. The bill providing for the erection of this building was presented and its passage secured by our distinguished fellow citizen, Col. Levi Maish, while serving as a member of the Forty-ninth Congress.

The court house, with its white granite front and Corinthian pillars, is a distinguishable feature among the buildings on East Market street. The jail, hospital and poor house, are fine and substantial structures, erected at a great cost. The poor house is maintained at the expense of the county and affords a comfortable home for the hundreds of York county's unfortunate poor.

September 24, 1887, York celebrated its first centennial as an incorporated borough. Two days were devoted to this purpose, and the demonstrations in honor of the auspicious event, were of the grandest and most enthusiastic character imaginable; all the civic societies, tradesmen and mechanics' unions and the citizens generally participating.

York, up to the breaking out of the War of the Rebellion, was not proverbial for enterprise and push. During and following the war, however, a new impetus seemed to seize upon her people, which has continued unabated ever since, in marked contradistinction to her old time apathy and absence of pluck. This is a great manufacturing center, representing most every manufacturing industry in the numerous works prominent in Pennsylvania. The principal manufactories operating at present are those making agricultural implements, railroad cars, steam engines, boilers, hair cloth, wire mattresses, matches, cigar and other boxes, iron bridges, house fronts and ornamental castings, beside the most extensive carriage works in the country, and a large rolling mill. In addition to this there are at least seventy cigar manufactories in the city, and more than eight hundred in the county, the combined product of which is far in excess of 200,000,000 cigars annually. In the city are six national banks, two private banks and one State bank, which have always been able to accommodate the business men here and weathered all panics yet bursting upon the country.



CHRIST CHURCH.



LOOKING EAST ON LINDEN AVENUE.



RIDGE AVENUE M. E. CHURCH.



YORK COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE.





IN PROSPECT HILL CEMETERY.





COURT HOUSE.



RESCUE ENGINE HOUSE.



UNION FIRE COMPANY.

In the country surrounding York, there are extensive quarries of limestone, slate, sandstone and ore banks. The mineral wealth of the county is supposed to be abundant, but has never been developed.

On the second day of November, 1886, the people at an election held for the purpose, adopted a city form of government. The vote cast resulted as follows: For city, 1892; against, 1255; majority for city charter, 637. The new government went into operation April 4, 1887. D. K. Noell, democrat, was the first mayor, who was elected February 15, of the same year.

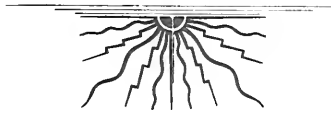
The population of York county in 1790 was 37,747; in 1860, 68,200; in 1880, 87,841; in 1890, 99,489. The population of York borough in 1880 was 13,940; in 1890, 20,793.

The subject of the removal of the old market sheds which stood in Center Square ever since the demolition of the old court house, and previous to that time, in a less pretentious shape, was one that had agitated the public mind for many years and called forth heated discussions in the public prints. The element desiring the removal of the sheds, notwithstanding the city governors favored the tearing of them away, feared that to attempt the work of destruction in the daytime, would excite opposition and precipitate riot, decided to perform the job under cover of night. Accordingly, the mayor authorized their destruction to take place on the morning of June 30, 1887, at 2 A. M. The work of demolition was started with vigor and speedily accomplished, attended by considerable excitement and exultation on the part of those favorable to their removal. When the old time structures were razed to the ground, an alarm of fire was sounded to summon the sleeping citizens to view the work of destruction. Those opposed to the action were very indignant and threatened suits for damage to city property. The excitement died out and nothing was done. It was predicted by many that the removal of the sheds would destroy the ancient Center market. Such, however, has proved a delusion, and although the market is held on the old spot in the open air, it continues to be the best attended market in the city, unimpeded by the elements. In addition to this market, the city enjoys the advantages of four large market buildings owned by corporations, wherein markets are held every day in the week.

In the year 1892, the York Street Railway, which company had been operating street cars by horse-power since September 30, 1886, changed August 27, 1892, to the Trolley system of electro motive power and intend to shortly extend their system to all the towns within a radius of ten or more miles of York. The streets are illuminated by electric light, furnished from two

central stations, one operated by the Edison company and the other by the Westinghouse. Business houses and private residences are lighted by the incandescent system of both these companies, and also by the York Gas company. The old method of macadamizing streets is being superceded by the more modern, cleanly and substantial paving with asphalt blocks. At this time, one square each direction from Center Square, is being laid with these blocks. The city has all the advantages of telephone and telegraph service and every comfort and convenience, enjoyed by the larger municipalities.

York city and county contribute largely to the revenue of the general government. The records of the office of Internal Revenue here, exhibit the fact, that in the last year, the sum of \$907,310.17 was paid for stamps on cigars and tobacco alone. The tax on distilled spirits manufactured here, is paid direct to the main office in Lancaster, which, added to this amount, would aggregate a much larger sum, revealing the fact that York pays more internal revenue than any other county in the great Ninth Revenue District. The post office reports show that the gross receipts for the year ending June 30, 1893, were \$39,570.21; total expenses, 13,147.86; net receipts, \$23,422.35.







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